



BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION

February 9, 2015

5:30 p.m. Basement Trost Conference Room
801 Texas Ave., City Bldg. 3, El Paso, Texas

MINUTES

Members Present: 5

District 1 – David Turner
District 3 – Deanna A. De La Cruz
District 5 – Theresa Welch Fordham
District 6 – Francoise A. Feliberti
District 7 – Sylvia Carreon
District 8 – Ana P. Roush

Members Absent: 3

District 4 – Roy Gilyard

Vacancies: 2

Mayor – Vacant
District 2 – Vacant

City Staff Present

Parks and Recreation

Tracy Novak, Parks and Recreation Director
Paula Powell, Parks and Recreation Assistant Director
Joel McKnight, Parks and Recreation Assistant Director
Wayne Thornton, Public Relations Coordinator
Marci Tuck, Open Space, Trails and Park Coordinator
David Lopez, Senior Coordinator
Maggie Binkley, Administrative Assistant

Facilities/Fleet Services

Victor Rivera, Facilities
Superintendent

City Attorney

None present

Public Present

Dr. Sandor Dorgo, Ph.D. CSCS Associate UTEP Professor

1. Agenda Item #1. Meeting Called to Order
Theresa Welch Fordham, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.,

Late arrival Ana Roush 5:40 p.m.
2. Agenda Item #2. Approval of Minutes: January 12, 2015
Motion by Francoise Feliberti to approve minutes as written. Second by Deanna De La Cruz. Motion carried (unanimous).
3. Agenda Item #3. Call to the Public (for items not on the agenda)
None

4. Agenda Item #4. Distribution: Parks and Recreation Calendar and Newsletter

Tracy Novak, Parks and Recreation Director, highlighted the Calendar of Events and the Newsletter:

- Aquatics Job Fair
- National Drowning Prevention Coalition in Dallas, Texas
- Grant application for Futureland – Northeast El Paso pocket park
- Grant for Texas Parks
- Pet-A-Fair 3rd Annual event

Tracy Novak, Director, announced that Paula Powell has been appointed to the position of Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation.

5. Agenda Item #5. Update and Discussion: Facilities Maintenance Activities – Victor Rivera, Facilities Superintendent.

Victor Rivera, Facilities Superintendent, reviewed the following activities:

- Work Orders: shutdown restrooms, will be ordering heaters
- Vandalism – need communities to help (outdoor restrooms)
- Solutions – possible surveillance

Tracy Novak, Parks and Recreation Director, reported that the department is revisiting the restroom situation. He reported that Marty Robbins will be receiving a sample of the restrooms with the help of facilities (permanent restroom). Mrs. Feliberti suggested monitoring restrooms during large tournaments.

The Parks Department is currently surveying all City park conditions. Report to be completed in approximately 30 – 45 days.

6. Agenda Item #6. Discussion: University of Texas at El Paso, Golden Age Fitness Program – Dr. Sandor Dorgo, Ph.D., CSCS Associate Professor & Graduate Coordinator, Department of Kinesiology, The University of Texas at El Paso.

Dr. Dorgo, University of Texas at El Paso Professor, gave a report of the Golden Age Program, which currently has 205 participants. In the nine years in operation, the program has had a total of 752 participants. The program is targeted towards senior in the community and provides a friendly environment. Dr Dorgo explained the program, locations and fitness results to the Board.

Ms. Feliberti requested information on the programs public service announcements and media campaign.

7. Agenda Item #7. Discussion: Parks and Recreation Center Program Promoting – Wayne Thornton, Public Relations Coordinator

Wayne Thornton, Public Relations Coordinator, explained the past 14 months of press releases. He also reported that the City Manager's office has streamlined the process of media releases. Lead Coordinator for Parks and Recreation is Martin Bartlett. The Department still utilizes Twitter and Facebook. Mr. Thornton explained the graph which illustrated the amount of press releases distributed per centers.

(Handout)

8. Agenda Item #8. Discussion: Pico Norte Public Service Board Update – Paula Powell, Assistant Director

Paula Powell, Assistant Director, reported on the following items:

- Will change out fence & direction in raising the fence
- Plans to expand pond
- Monthly updates

9. Agenda Item #9. Discussion: Negotiations for County Owned Park Land – Marci Tuck, Open Space, Trails, and Park Coordinator

Marci Tuck, Open Space, Trails and Park Coordinator explained the dialogue regarding the Regional Park System and City plans, that created a Blue Ribbon Committee. (Handout)

10. Agenda Item #10. Discussion: City Strategic Plan and Parks and Recreation – Tracy Novak, Parks and Recreation Director

Tracy Novak, Parks and Recreation Director, reviewed the brochure on the City's Strategic Plan. He explained the Strategic subgoals for the Parks and Recreation Department, Strategic Goal 4: Enhance El Paso's Quality of Life through Recreational, Cultural and Educational Environments (Handout).

11. Agenda Item #11. Reports on Recent Activity

- a. Recent City Council Agenda Items List
- b. Upcoming Committee Meetings List
- c. Land Acquisition List
- d. Parks and Recreation Construction Projects Lists

Tracy Novak, Parks and Recreation Director, stated the reports on recent activity referenced above are included in the packet and are also public record on the City's website.

Mr. Novak announced the recent article in the National Parks and Recreation Magazine which referenced the City of El Paso Parks and Recreation. The articles referenced the Senior Games and Vaping Ordinance. Signage to follow regarding the new ordinance at parks and facilities.

Ms. Feliberti opened discussion on restrooms. Mr. Novak reported that there will be a Legislative Review Committee to address Restroom Policy and City Council to reconsider acreage criteria for permanent restrooms.

12. Agenda Item #12. Discussion and Action: Subcommittee Assignments (as needed)

Deanna De La Cruz made a motion to nominate Alternate Ana Roush to fill the vacancy on the Grievance Subcommittee. Second by David Turner. Motion passed (unanimously)

Sylvia Carreon made a motion to nominate Alternate David Turner to fill the vacancy on the Park Naming Subcommittee. Second by Deanna De La Cruz. Motion passed (unanimously).

13. Agenda Item #13. Discussion: Identify Items for Future Agendas
 - Tierra Del Este Trail
 - Ascarate Trail
 - Fort Bliss Fields
14. Adjournment - 7:16 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Maggie Binkley, Administrative Assistant